

Supervisor Lesko and Town Officials Celebrate Start of Long Island Home Builders Care Program to Build Homes for Returning Veterans

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Farmingville, NY - On Veterans Day, Supervisor Mark Lesko, Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh, Councilwoman Jane Bonner and Receiver of Taxes Louis Marcoccia joined state and county officials in Sound Beach to celebrate the start of the first of four affordable homes being built by Long Island Home Builders Care (LIHBC) for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The property on Medford Road was donated by Long Island Builders Institute (LIBI) member, Mark Baisch, of Landmark Properties and the selection of the candidate for this home will be conducted by the Veterans of Foreign War Post 6249 in Rocky Point. The program is made possible through the joint efforts of Suffolk County, the Town of Brookhaven and members of Long Island Builders Institute. The Town of Brookhaven has donated two lots in East Patchogue and one in Ronkonkoma for future homes.

"We honor and thank every veteran for their service to our country and it's our duty to help them settle into civilian life when they return from overseas," said Supervisor Lesko. "This program is a great example of government, business and the community coming together to make a difference for those who put their life on the line so we all can live free."

Councilwoman Walsh noted that, "one of the major hurdles facing returning veterans is finding an affordable place to live. This major undertaking is a step towards addressing that concern. Our veterans have shown unmatched dedication to public service," she continued, "honoring that service means doing all we can to help them find a home, an affordable home, so they never feel as if the American Dream they fought so hard to defend is out of reach for them and their families."

"The outpouring of support that our community shows for returning veterans is something that we all can be proud of and I thank Long Island Home Builders Care for doing their part to help make home ownership a reality for those who have bravely served our country," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner. "Sound Beach is a wonderful place to live and I'm sure that whoever is selected will agree when they move in to their new home."

"Providing assistance such as this is the least a grateful community can do for those who place themselves in harms way to protect the freedoms we enjoy and sometimes take for granted each and every day" said Louis Marcoccia, Brookhaven Town Receiver of Taxes, "As a fellow veteran, I want to wish this service member and their family many happy and healthy times in their new home. Thank you for your service."

Pictured left to right are: State Senator Ken LaValle, Supervisor Mark Lesko, State Senator Marc Alessi, Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh, County Executive Steve Levy, Legislator Daniel Losquadro, LIBHC member and president of Daytree Custom Builder Clara Datre, LIBI member Mark Baisch, Councilwoman Jane Bonner and Receiver of Taxes Louis Marcoccia.

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